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### (54) Expandable well screen

(57) An expandable well screen (36) provides increased collapse, torsional and tensile strength. In an embodiment, the expandable well screen (36) includes a generally tubular base pipe (38) and an external filtering media (40). The well screen (36) is configured to have sufficient torsional and tensile strength for conveyance and positioning in a wellbore, while also having sufficient strength to prevent collapse when the screen (38) is radially expanded.

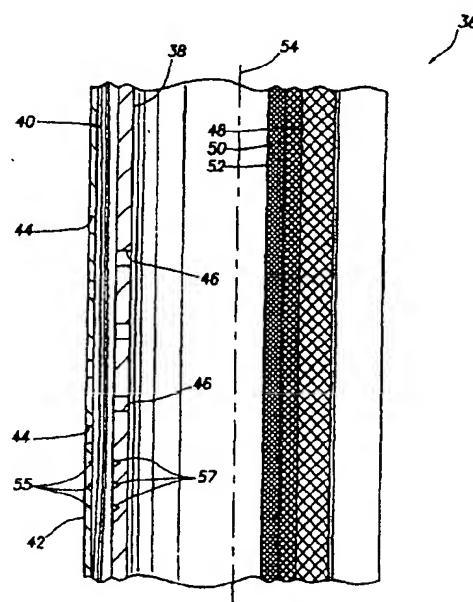


FIG.2

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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EP 01 30 4042

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<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">TECHNICAL FIELDS</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">S : Specification D : Description C : Claim O : Other</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">E21B</td> </tr> </table>				TECHNICAL FIELDS	S : Specification D : Description C : Claim O : Other	E21B
TECHNICAL FIELDS						
S : Specification D : Description C : Claim O : Other						
E21B						
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims						
Place of search	Date or completion of the search	Examiner				
THE HAGUE	19 April 2002	Schouten, A				
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons S : member of the same patent family, corresponding document				
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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82